

**Claims:**

1. A process for preparing 2,4,5-trimethylphenylacetic acid, characterized in that pseudocumene is reacted with dichloroacetyl chloride in a Friedel-Crafts reaction to give 2,2-dichloro-1-(2,4,5-trimethylphenyl)ethanone, and 2,4,5-trimethylmandelic acid is prepared from it using an alkali metal hydroxide and reduced to 2,4,5-trimethylphenylacetic acid.
2. 2,2-Dichloro-1-(2,4,5-trimethylphenyl)ethanone.